



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

Park and Recreation Department FAST FACTS

The City of San Diego Park and Recreation Department operates and maintains a diverse and valued park system that serves millions of residents and visitors each year. The City park system does more than fulfill the public's need for leisure, it also supports San Diego's economic base through tourism; and it greatly enhances the City's ability to attract and retain businesses.

As of October 2004 the Park and Recreation Department was responsible for the oversight of:

Park land	38,890 acres of developed and undeveloped open space.
Regional Parks	<p>Mission Bay. At 4,235 acres, approximately half land and half water; Mission Bay is the largest man-made public aquatic recreational area in the world.</p> <p>Balboa Park. At 1,172 acres, Balboa Park has more than 100 arts, educational, recreational, social and sports organizations; fourteen museums, and is home of the World Famous San Diego Zoo and Old Globe Theatre.</p> <p>Mission Trails Regional Park. One of the largest urban parks west of the Mississippi, Mission Trails is nearly 5,800 acres of open space and provides visitors the chance to participate in a wide variety of hikes and multi-educational programs. Mission Trails also includes Kumeyaay Lake Campground.</p>
Open Space Parks	<p>Tri-Canyon Open Space Parks (Marian Bear Memorial Park, Rose Canyon Open Space and Tecolote Canyon Natural Park and an expanded nature center). Comprised of 1,500 acres for hiking, biking, walking and bird watching, trails take visitors through some of the most endangered habitat in the continental United States.</p> <p>Los Peñasquitos Canyon Preserve, made up of over 4,000 acres is home to many rare and endangered plant and animal species. Visitors using the 37 miles of multi-use trails have the opportunity to view 14 different habitat types.</p> <p>Black Mountain Park is comprised of 2,352 acres, has trails for hiking, biking and equestrian use and has over 80 species of birds. The center piece of the park is the 1,554 foot summit of Black Mountain which provides 360 degree views of the area.</p> <p>San Pasqual- Clevenger Canyon Open Space offer great hiking and bird watching, including a challenging 1755 ft summit.</p>
San Diego River	A proposed regional park that will stretch from the Pacific Ocean to its headwaters in the Cuyamaca mountains. Upon completion of the cooperative effort between the Cities of San Diego and Santee, the County of San Diego, the State of California through the San Diego River Park Conservancy, the public will be able to access riverside trails, bike paths and more.
Otay Valley Regional Park	Otay Valley Regional Park, is a tri-jurisdictional park, that when complete will be 13 miles long and offer biking, hiking, and horseback.
Beaches	25 miles of ocean and bay beaches.

Shoreline Parks	26 shoreline parks along the San Diego coast and two public shoreline walkways, totaling 373 acres of walkways and parks.
Recreation	51 recreation centers provide programs, activities and events throughout the year to all ages, abilities and income levels.
Golf	Three municipal golf complexes: award-winning Torrey Pines; Balboa Park, the oldest golf course in San Diego; and Mission Bay (lighted), all offering outstanding golf.
Aquatics Program	Swimming lessons, Water Safety classes, youth, adult senior and disabled programs including swim and polo teams, and fitness classes provided at 13 swimming pools. Four seasonal portable pools are also used during summer months in communities where there are no permanent pools.
Therapeutic Recreation Services	A variety of programs that are delivered for people with disabilities so that they can achieve a maximum level of independence in their leisure and recreational lifestyles. More than 70,000 people take part each year.
Volunteers	More than 25,000 volunteers who assist staff each year. They donate in excess of 180,000 hours to enrich the lives of park users and to preserve parks for future generations.
Senior Services	Senior Services Office provides information and referral services to community-based senior centers and other senior-based programs offered throughout San Diego. More than 50,000 people participate in these programs annually.
Tennis	31 tennis facilities that provide 156 courts for play.
Skate Parks	There are currently 2 skate parks, with two more scheduled to open in 2005.
Fishing	There are two fishing piers at Ocean Beach and Pacific Beach and one fishing lake at Chollas Lake. Lake concession operations offer bait, snacks and other items at six of the City-owned reservoirs.
Resource Protection	Forty acres of protected nesting sites for the endangered California least tern and a total of 84 acres of wetland preserve at Famosa Slough Wildlife Preserve and Mission Bay Park.
Capital Improvement Projects (CIPs)	175 Capital Improvement Projects valued at approximately \$350 million.
Joint Use Agreements With Local School Districts	Approximately 100 Joint-Use Agreements with local school districts that provide additional recreational opportunities.
Maintenance Assessment Districts (MAD)	37 maintenance assessment districts throughout the city providing property owners the opportunity to pay for enhanced improvements, maintenance, services, and more in their communities, beyond those generally provided by the City.
Mt. Hope Cemetery	City of San Diego's only cemetery owned and operated by the city. Since 1869, Mt. Hope Cemetery has provided interment options at reasonable costs. Prominent San Diegans including Alfonzo Horton and Kate Sessions are buried at this 69-acre site.